Starvation death in Sonebhadra, UP

1373. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIR9 be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 18 tribal children died recently due to starvation in Sonebhadra District of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the life of the tribal people in the State is in distress; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in collaboration with State Government to avoid such a tragedy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pro-Poor Schemes

1374. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Southern States are more committed in supporting the pro-poor schemes than the other States, particularly the Central Government's key project, the Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY); and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) being a demand driven scheme meant for the urban poor residing in slums, the Southern States have shown keen interest and commitment by submitting the project proposals in accordance with the Scheme guidelines.

Linkage from Metro Stations

1375. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state: